

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-17 (canceled).

18. (previously presented) A nonwoven web comprising:

a randomly interlaid web of extruded multicomponent meltblown fibers, said the multicomponent fibers having an average fiber diameter less than about 7 micrometers and comprising a first olefin polymer component and a second amorphous olefin polymer component.

19. (original) The nonwoven web of claim 18 wherein the first polymeric component comprises a crystalline propylene polymer and wherein the second polymeric component comprises an amorphous propylene polymer.

20. (original) The nonwoven web of claim 18 wherein the first polymeric component comprises a propylene polymer having a crystallinity above 70 J/g and further wherein the second polymeric component comprises an amorphous polyalphaolefin having a crystallinity below about 65 J/g.

21. (original) The nonwoven web of claim 20 wherein the second polymeric component comprises a propylene homopolymer.

22. (previously presented) The nonwoven web of claim 18 wherein said the first component comprises polyethylene and wherein said the second component comprises an amorphous polyalphaolefin having a crystallinity below about 65 J/g.

23. (previously presented) The nonwoven web of claim 18 wherein said the nonwoven web has a hydrohead in excess of 50 mbar and a Frazier air permeability in excess of 100 cubic feet/minute/square foot.

24. (previously presented) The nonwoven web of claim 18 wherein the second component is a propylene copolymer.

25. (previously presented) The nonwoven web of claim 24 wherein the second component is a propylene/ethylene copolymer.

26. (previously presented) The nonwoven web of claim 24 wherein the second component is a propylene/butylene copolymer.

27. (previously presented) The nonwoven web of claim 18 further comprising a second web of extruded meltblown fibers.

28. (previously presented) The nonwoven web of claim 27 wherein the second web of extruded meltblown fibers is a web of extruded multicomponent meltblown fibers.

29. (previously presented) The nonwoven web of claim 27 wherein the second web of extruded meltblown fibers is a web of extruded monocomponent meltblown fibers.

30. (previously presented) The nonwoven web of claim 29 wherein the monocomponent meltblown fibers are polypropylene meltblown fibers.

31. (withdrawn) A nonwoven web comprising:

a randomly interlaid web of extruded multicomponent meltblown fibers, the multicomponent fibers having an average fiber diameter less than about 7 micrometers and comprising a first elastic polymer component and a second polymer component.

32. (withdrawn) The nonwoven web of claim 31 wherein the elastic polymer comprises an elastic polyolefin.

33. (withdrawn) The nonwoven web of claim 32 wherein the elastic polyolefin comprises an elastic polyethylene.

34. (withdrawn) The nonwoven web of claim 32 wherein the elastic polyolefin comprises an elastic polypropylene.

35. (withdrawn) The nonwoven web of claim 32 wherein the second polymer component comprises an elastic polyolefin.

36. (withdrawn) The nonwoven web of claim 31 wherein the second polymer component comprises a non-polyolefin thermoplastic elastomer.

37. (withdrawn) The nonwoven web of claim 31 wherein at least one of the polymer components comprises a blend of a polyolefin and a non-polyolefin thermoplastic elastomer.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY